

Memorandum of Cooperation

between

The Secretariat of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals

and

The Secretariat of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

The Secretariat of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (hereinafter referred to as the “Secretariat of the Convention”) and the Secretariat of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (hereinafter referred to as the “Secretariat of the Platform”), which are both administered by the United Nations Environment Programme,

Collectively referred to hereinafter as “the Parties”,

Recalling that

1. As fundamental principles of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (hereinafter “the Convention”), the parties to the Convention acknowledge: (1) the importance of migratory species being conserved and of Range States agreeing to take action to this end whenever possible and appropriate, paying special attention to migratory species the conservation status of which is unfavourable, and taking individually or in co-operation appropriate and necessary steps to conserve such species and their habitats; and (2) the need to take action to avoid any migratory species from becoming endangered.
2. The Conference of the Parties to the Convention adopted, through Resolution 11.2, the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023, which includes a suite of strategic goals and targets and has the purpose of providing vision, leadership, and a driving force toward the full and effective implementation of goals and targets related to migratory species.
3. The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (hereinafter referred to as “Intergovernmental Platform” or “IPBES”) seeks to strengthen the science-policy interface on biodiversity and ecosystem services for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, long-term human wellbeing and sustainable development, and its functions are:
 - a. To identify and prioritize key scientific information needed by policymakers on appropriate scales and to catalyse efforts to generate new knowledge;
 - b. To perform regular and timely assessments of knowledge on biodiversity and ecosystem services and the interlinkages between them;
 - c. To support policy formulation and implementation by identifying policy-relevant tools and methodologies to enable decision makers to gain access to those tools and methodologies and, where necessary, to promote and catalyse their further development;
 - d. To prioritize key capacity-building needs to improve the science-policy interface at appropriate levels.

Further recalling that

4. The Conference of the Parties to the Convention adopted Resolution 10.8, which urges CMS Focal Points and Scientific Councillors to communicate and liaise regularly with the national representatives in the IPBES to ensure that the needs for research and policy guidance related to migratory species, especially those listed under the Convention, are being adequately addressed by IPBES; and invites IPBES to address science-policy linkages and the need for assessments, policy support, capacity building and knowledge generation relating to the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species of wild animals.

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1. Purpose

The purpose of this Memorandum of Cooperation is to promote cooperation between the Parties with respect to mutually relevant activities conducted within the framework of the Convention and the Intergovernmental Platform, with a view to promoting synergies between, avoiding overlaps and unnecessary duplication of, and ensuring effective cooperation on, such activities.

Article 2. Cooperation

To achieve the purpose set out in Article 1, the Parties will, where relevant and appropriate:

- a. Promote their mutual cooperation through regular exchanges of information on their relevant respective activities; the participation of their concerned respective officers in relevant meetings, as required; and the holding of consultations on the preparation of their respective official documents by making available to one another drafts of relevant documents and providing comments on such documents, where appropriate and feasible;
- b. Encourage cooperation and information exchange between their respective focal points with a view to promoting cooperation at the national and international levels;
- c. Facilitate and encourage the mutual provision of technical support, *inter alia*, to promote technical and scientific cooperation and capacity building at the national and regional levels;
- d. Facilitate, where appropriate, the participation of their technical experts on issues of mutual relevance covered by their respective programmes of work;
- e. Facilitate synergies between mutually relevant activities of their governing bodies.

Article 3. Work plans

With a view to implementing this Memorandum of Cooperation, the Parties may agree on work plans concerning their joint activities. Each such work plan, once agreed by both Parties, will constitute an integral part of this Memorandum of Cooperation and will be attached as an annex thereof.

Article 4. Financial aspects

The implementation of activities agreed under this Memorandum of Cooperation is subject to the availability of funding for such purpose.

Article 5. Reporting and further guidance

Each Party may report to its respective governing body and subsidiary bodies, as appropriate, on progress made in the implementation of this Memorandum of Cooperation and seek further guidance from such body or bodies regarding new areas of cooperation with the other Party.

Article 6. Review, amendment and termination

- a. This Memorandum of Cooperation does not impose, nor does it intend to impose, any legally binding commitment on either Party. It may be reviewed by the Parties, either collectively or individually, to assess its effectiveness, and it may be amended at any time by mutual agreement between the Parties.
- b. This Memorandum of Cooperation will enter into force upon signature by both Parties and shall remain effective until 31 December 2019. It may be terminated earlier by either Party by giving notice in writing to the other Party no less than six months in advance of the date of expiry of the Memorandum of Cooperation.

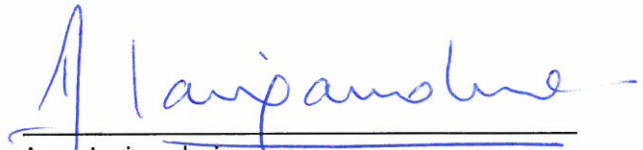
Signed this 22nd day of February 2017, in Bonn, Germany:

For the CMS Secretariat:



Bradnee Chambers
Executive Secretary
Convention on
the Conservation of Migratory Species
of Wild Animals

For the IPBES Secretariat:



Anne Larigauderie
Executive Secretary
Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on
Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services